

# Reflections

By Albert K. Owen.

I am against Capital punishment. I believe that the Criminal should be made to work under the Municipality - on the Municipal farms, in the Municipal shops - on the streets, roads, canals, etc. - under strict superintendence; to be known only by a number; to go unrecognized; to be unpublished - to be as one who had never existed during the full term of punishment.

I believe that the work done should be paid for as work of like character is paid for elsewhere; and that 50 per cent. of what the Criminal makes should be paid to the Criminal's family; 25 per cent. to the family of the victim, and 25 per cent. should be retained by the Municipality for food, clothes, shelter, etc..

In case the Criminal does not have a person or persons dependent upon him or her then more of the earnings should go to the victim's family; in other cases the Municipality should take the bulk of the earnings; and in case the Criminal's term expires while he or she lives, 25 per cent. of what he or she

has actually earned<sup>2</sup> should be given him or her that he or she may have something on which to start life afresh.

This system would be self-sustaining under experienced business management; i.e. not any tax would be necessary further than to start the farms and shops, etc..

A "Reformer" of the present day is a man who talks loudest upon subjects he knows the least about to persons who have thought so little upon any subject that they believe that they know everything.

Wealth is the power to command the services of others in those ways, in those forms and at those times that one may desire.

I believe that "One man with God is a majority." that individual initiative is the most potent factor in the world - that Napoleon was wise when he said: "One Commander for an Army is better than two Armies with independent Commanders" - that Lincoln was inspired when he declared that "One bad General is better than two good ones."

It is local control, not local prohibition, or local option that we need to regulate the abuse of liquor. By doing away with the saloon entirely and

allowing the Municipality through its dispensary to sell wines, etc., only for home uses all would be well & Temperance is not necessarily to prohibit - "Dost thou think because thou art virtuous there shall be no more Cakes and Ale?"  
 (Twelfth Night = 11-13)

I do not believe that "What is bred in the marrow Comes out in the bone" - as much as what is forced into the disposition makes a man good or bad - that heredity has as much to do with the usefulness and Culture of the person as his or her environments have

In disciplining the mind to be precise, it is well to write down ones thoughts and to read them, from time to time, as experience and reflection are given us. Most persons do not know what they think on any one idea because they never think seriously upon any thing.

The first law that ever God gave to man was a law of obedience - was a law in regard to the fruit in the Garden of Eden. The first of the Ten Commandments is that we "Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy."